

Ware Church
Near Gloucester
Gloucester County
Virginia

HABS No. VA-408

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Historic American Buildings Survey

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WARE CHURCH
Gloucester, Gloucester Co., Va.Owner: Episcopal ChurchDate: c. 1750Builder:Condition: Good

Description: The building is of brick laid in Flemish bond with some glazed brick headers. In plan it is a simple rectangle and it is covered by a high gable roof. There have been considerable alterations due to damage to the building while it was secularized during the Civil War.

In elevation the short west end is the facade. It has an arched door with simple brick trim. Above two round gallery windows have been pierced. The original arrangement here was probably similar to Abington Church nearby. In this the main cornice carried across the gable end and up the roof rake, producing a pedimented gable. The location of the outlookers and the line of the cornice itself can be seen at Ware. It was removed probably to allow for the gallery windows. The east end also lacks the horizontal cornice. There are two arched windows flanking a central wall pier. In side elevation the building is five bays long, all bays except that next to the easternmost being occupied by tall arched head windows. The transept bay on both elevations have square head double door within guaged brick frames of piers and pediments. The doors in these openings are restorations set in place in 1929-30.

The interior possesses no original woodwork, the gallery doors also being restorations. The paneled stair was moved here from elsewhere. It is mid-eighteenth century and is of a type familiar in the county.

James Waterman

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